

News From Poland

(For Bulletin Boards and Private Persons)

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Mr. Cummings Recalled

Poland is one of the three countries of Europe from which American secretaries are being recalled because of the necessity of reducing the budget of the International Committee. Mr. Lew Riess is being recalled from Greece and Mr. E. F. Duffy from Czechoslovakia, while Poland is to adjust itself to the loss of Mr. E. R. Cummings, who has been stationed in Warsaw for over 12 years, first as the national comptroller and during the last 7 years as general secretary of the Warsaw Association. Under his administration the great Warsaw YMCA building, one of the largest in Europe, has been brought to its present stage of completion and the work inaugurated in this new plant. For this work he was last year decorated by the Prime Minister of Poland, Mr. Prystor, with the Gold Cross of Merit, and he is one of the very few foreigners who received the Ten Year Medal in 1928. Mr. Cummings has won a strong place in the affections of the Poles and will be greatly missed by them.

At the meeting of the Board of Directors following the recall of Mr. Cummings, Mr. Paul Super was elected to the general secretaryship of the Warsaw Association. He will have to make an adjustment of his time between the national office and the Warsaw Association, giving the latter the major portion.

National Loan



The 120,000,000 zloty internal loan floated by the Polish Government the first week of October to balance its budget and secure its economic foundations met with huge and surprising success. The subscription reached 350,000,000 zloty, almost three times the amount asked for. In American money that is roughly \$ 60,000,000. Every class of society participated in the subscription and the result of this great success is new public confidence in the strength and stability of the country.

Our picture shows a group of boys from the YMCA Newsboys' Department with their chairman and secretary calling upon the director of the loan, Minister Starzyński, to present the subscription of the members of the Newsboys' Department.

Building Campaign

The recent floating of this large popular loan makes it necessary for the Warsaw YMCA to modify its building campaign somewhat. The big public subscription which was to have been taken in November will both for psychological and for economic reasons have to be postponed until March, but meanwhile a very fine committee under the honorary leadership of the Prime Minister and many high officials and people prominent in private life is proceeding with the securing of the larger subscriptions, and this effort will be continued throughout the winter with the expectation of having at least 500,000 zloty (\$ 80,000) on hand by the opening of the building season next spring. As subscriptions are secured the completion of the interior of the building will be continued.

The Marshal



This bulletin now prints its first picture of Marshal Piłsudski, the creator of contemporary Poland and its loved and trusted leader. As part of the Sobieski celebrations in Poland, Marshal Piłsudski reviewed 12 regiments of cavalry in Krakow, the city from which Sobieski made his official departure for Vienna. Beside the Marshal in the picture is the colonel of a regiment which takes its costume from that of Poland's mountaineers, the gurals. People who know Polish life will recognise the gural hat and cloak. They will also recognise that the word is here spelt for English pronunciation.

Marshal Piłsudski is the first honorary member of the Polish YMCA.

Gordon-Bennett Cup.

The spectacular victory of Poland in winning this year's Gordon-Bennett Cup in the long distance balloon race has again brought the wonderful development of Polish aviation to the attention of the world. Captain Hynek and Lieutenant Burzyński piloted the Polish balloon "Kościuszko" far into the northern woods of Canada, winning the Cup, in competition with the leading nations of the world and securing Poland as the location of the next contest.

This fine achievement with a balloon was preceded only a short time ago by the record making straight line flight of Captain Skarżyński in a one-man plane from Africa to Brazil, his exploit being followed by a visit to the United States.

Just recently the citizens of central Poland were stirred by the magnificent air manoeuvres conducted by hundreds of Polish military aeroplanes.

America is probably little informed as to the great development of aviation in Poland including the manufacture of balloons and aeroplanes of many models and the training of young pilots, both men and women.

There are ten great regional air clubs in Poland and each of these is pushing the whole cause of aviation from the point of view of touring and of sport, while aviation in the army is reaching a high degree of development.

Poland participates in all the great international air contests, frequently winning distinguished places. In a recent Polish contest 34 Polish machines of 13 different types took part, the Lwow Aero-Club supplying one plane piloted by women.

Gliders also have received due attention; the Polish record for the flight of a glider is just under 11 hours.

The whole nation has become interested in aviation and tens of thousands of citizens belong to the various Aero Clubs, especially the "League For Air Defence", with more than a million members.

Polish Art in Russia

The Polish and Russian authorities are co-operating in organizing a big exhibition of Polish art in Moscow, and in this connection a Polish excursion is being organized at a very low rate including visits to Leningrad, Moscow, and Kieff. The developing of these cultural and friendly relations between the two countries will strengthen the new political understanding which now unites Poland and Russia and which means so much to the whole peace of Europe. Friends of peace, friends of Poland, and friends of Russia, all give high value to this new understanding



The Polish YMCA has adopted the above as its official button-hole emblem. The drawing represents the gold-and-white badge of the Emblem Club of the North American associations. The button is increasingly seen on the streets of Warsaw and is very popular. YMCA is the only word in the Polish language beginning with the letter Y, so this button can here in Poland be symbolic of only one thing, the Polish YMCA. The four letters are pronounced as one word rhyming with jimka. The emblem is of course not large like this cut, but only $\frac{1}{16}$ of an inch across.

More Stamps



Two beautiful new stamps have recently been issued here in Poland, at least one of which will delight the collector's heart, the Sobieski stamp, of which we give a reproduction. It is printed in blue and represents King John Sobieski after the great relief of Vienna effected by him when he drove the Turks from under the walls of that city in September 1683. The stamp is a little less than two inches long and a little over 1 inch wide. It is worth 20 c. in American money and carries a registered letter from Warsaw to North America.

The other stamp celebrates the 400th anniversary of the death of the great Polish wood carver and sculptor, Wit Stwosz, and shows a picture of a part of the altar-piece in St. Mary's Church, Krakow, one of the world's master pieces of wood carving. The value of the stamp is 80 groszy or 14 c. and carries a registered letter within Poland. It is the same size as the Sobieski stamp and printed in brown.

Double

Enrollment in the educational department of the Warsaw YMCA at the opening of the year is 240, just double what it was last year. We hope that this sets the pace of the whole work of the season.

No and Yes

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